

SARATOGA'S SUMMER CHARMS

HEALTH GIVING WATERS AND GAYETY OF THE SPRINGS.

Interesting Things to See and to Do—The scenery, beautiful and the Region Historic—Varied Attractions of the Hotels—A Forecast and the Reality.

Saratoga is one of the places which you plan to revisit when you leave after a first sojourn. There is no other summer resort on this side of the Atlantic, observers say, so closely resembles the European watering places. What other resort is there, its admirers ask, where you can stand on the main street at night and watch such crowds of handsomely dressed women and men in evening clothes walk past you and where you can find so many well appointed hotels of the old roomy sort whose great glass chandeliers seem to fit in with the soft carpet in the long parlors and the handsome upholstery of the chairs and sofas? Everybody knows what you mean when you say Saratoga, but Saratoga Springs is the right name. Sir William Johnson first heard of the place in 1767 when Indians told him about the "great medicine spring" there. He was probably the first white man to visit the spot. Sir William Johnson has been gathered to his fathers and the Indians are now in the happy hunting grounds, but the springs still sear at Saratoga just as they did when the explorer was carried on the shoulders of his Indian guides to see them.

Drop in at Congress Park and join the group at the spring. The water bubbles up into tall glass cylinders and then runs over. Uniformed attendants dip it out, as many glasses as you care to drink. Your health may be all right, but that's no reason why you shouldn't drink the waters. You may be ill some day and prevention is never out of place. Even the men who attend the hundred and one conventions held at Saratoga every year never miss the trip to the springs.

The proper thing, according to some visitors, is to spend most of the night dancing and then get up early to go to the springs before breakfast. After breakfast there is time enough to sleep, of course if you really need medicinal waters and a complete rest there are places in Saratoga where absolute quiet is afforded.

There are many interesting things to see in Saratoga. The famous racetrack is one of them, and its banks of flowering hydrangeas which outline the course with a solid band of color are worth going a long way to see. The Casino, where Canfield operated his gambling tables, is another point of interest. You've often eaten Saratoga potatoes. They were first made at Saratoga Lake at Moon's restaurant.

Saratoga Springs nestles within the shade of the Adirondack forest, whose lofty pines tower above its cottages and hotels. Toward the east the rolling country inclines to the valley of the upper Hudson, while the picturesque range of the Green Mountains is outlined against the sky. To the south the land falls away to the confluence of the Hudson and Mohawk. The highest peaks of the Berkshires and the Catskills are within view. To the west the valley of the Mohawk is reached through a thickly wooded country traversed by a range of the Adirondack system.

This region was the hunting ground of the Six Nations, and Indian legends abound. Here was fought one of the "seven decisive battles of the world," and the surrender of Burgoyne on the banks of the Hudson, twelve miles east of the village, assured the independence of the United States. A monument stands on the highest elevation of Schuylerville in commemoration of the battle.

Saratoga is a favorite stopping place for automobilists making the trip to the Adirondacks or to Canada. Hardly anything in the town suggests business. No factories, mills or other industrial enterprises show themselves, but repose, relaxation and enjoyment are suggested everywhere.

The Legislature of the State of New York has appropriated a large sum of money to acquire the springs at Saratoga for the public welfare and to establish a State mineral springs reservation. To carry out this plan the village has arranged to supply more than a quarter of a million dollars to buy park lands and to establish a public casino. The village authorities have already acquired Congress Spring Park. There are a dozen other springs there which the visitor must try because it would never do to leave Saratoga without knowing how each sort of spring water tastes.

Follow broad Congress street for six miles and you will reach Saratoga Lake. The lake is nine miles long, and at its broadest point, opposite Snake Hill, it is about three miles wide. The shores, with their great oaks, present a scene of quiet beauty. Mount McGregor is reached by a delightful drive along the east base of the Palisade range to Wilton village. Here Gen. Grant died.

There is no excuse for a dull moment in Saratoga. And Saratoga is a place in the summer of the hotels every morning and afternoon. There is a splendid golf course, and in the afternoon there are polo matches. Tennis is popular, and a number of golf sets are played there every year by professionals. In the evening there are dances in the hotels. There are games of all sorts and all degrees of excitement are won.

A memory of Saratoga is the casino which Richard Canfield had there. The big red brick clubhouse, nestled in a lower of oaks, has, it is said, seen higher play than any other resort of its kind in the United States. Only the games were played during Canfield's regime, roulette and faro. Two years ago the big was placed on gambling and Canfield closed his room for play and now the place has been sold.

Old timers will tell you how high the play was and will recall how men won or lost thousands of dollars at a sitting. There are indications now and then of men playing all night, all the next day and the following night and of men who were drunk before early in the evening but were sober before breakfast.

Saratoga has its past somewhere in that past, about fifty years ago, a young woman under the pen name of "Sophie Francis" wrote a book forecasting what the famous watering place would be in 1911. There were lots of things that she did not foresee. Her guests of this year arrived largely in stages and the change to a stage by the automobile was not her prediction. She judged that there might be some improvement in the lighting of the town, and she hit it right for the gas has been improved out of existence. But in one particular she was entirely right when she forecasted the prosperity for the summer resort.

The great trees stand in their time, have grown and the waters that spring from the earth when the water is first in the hills. The summer resort would have been mostly broadened, but Saratoga is still its place. More attention is now being paid to the water, the property of the waters, and the great new in operation at Saratoga Springs three hotels and one system under the management of physicians, and several excellent dining establishments have been erected.

While Saratoga Springs is a small town, it is one of the most improved of the large cities. A copious water sup-

ply from mountain streams, a complete fire alarm telegraph system and well disciplined police and fire departments mark the Saratoga of to-day, and all contribute to the safety and pleasure of visitors who spend their summer vacation at the Springs.

AT RICHFIELD SPRINGS.

Summer Attractions for Visitors Among the Otsego Hills.

Situated among the Otsego Hills, on picturesque Canadago Lake and less than six hours ride from New York, is the village of Richfield Springs, where thousands of people go every summer to enjoy the pure air of the hills and see the country made famous by Cooper's "Leatherstocking Tales." The district is famous for the White Sulphur Spring, which since the days of the powerful confederation of the Five Nations has never ceased to flow as a fountain of health.

The climate of Richfield is decidedly tonic and delightful during the summer months. The nights are cool and stimulating to those who seek rest after the weariness of an overbusy working year. In this altitude there is no trace of malaria. No resort has better or more attractive roads than Richfield. Drives abound which give charming views of mountains and lakes. Much money has been spent in putting these roads in excellent condition, and motorists come to Richfield Springs in ever increasing numbers.

Lake Canadago is quickly reached by walking or by trolley. A large fleet of rowboats and several launches can be rented. Otsego Lake, the haunt of the Deerslayer, is another interesting place, and a sail on either of these lakes is full of charm.

The game fish in the lakes and streams in the vicinity of Richfield Springs are bass, pickerel, perch and trout. Lake Canadago is particularly well stocked with fish and some good catches have already been registered this year. Tackle and bait are obtained at the boat-houses. Visitors stopping at the Berkeley-Walton Hotel can have the fish they have caught served to them in the dining room. Richfield Springs has a finely equipped bathing establishment. It is particularly designed to administer the medicinal waters of the Great White Sulphur Spring in the treatment of rheumatic affections. The douche rooms are modelled after those at the hydrotherapeutic establishment in Paris. Besides the medicinal waters there are a good swimming pool and a bathhouse near the hotel at Richfield Springs supplied with running water.

But the medicinal waters are only a single phase, though an important one, in the summer life at the resort. All the vacation pastimes have been provided and there are several excellent golf courses within motoring distance where the visitor can exercise his skill and improve his health. The privilege of these golf courses is to be had by the payment of a small fee.

There are tennis courts available at the Walton Hotel Club and in Spring Park. These are kept in the best condition. A feature of Richfield Springs which will appeal to women visitors is the daily morning concerts in the park. The village has a good baseball team and visitors often lend a hand to help the home boys win a game. The non-players enjoy watching the contests between the Richfields and visiting teams from nearby towns.

WEEK-END TRIPS TO HARTFORD.

Including a Taste of the Pleasures of Ocean Trip Without Discomfort.

A trip down the Sound from New York can be made on the night boats of the Hartford Line, reaching the Connecticut capital early the next morning. The coolness and the refreshing salt air of real ocean travel are to be enjoyed on the Sound without the possible discomfort of a rough night.

Hartford is well worth a day's visit. The city has a fine site and from the higher points in the town views of the fertile and attractive Connecticut Valley are to be had. Those interested in history will be glad to visit the landmarks which preserve the memory of Colonial times.

The old Statehouse in which the Hartford convention representing the Federalists of the New England States met in 1814 to devise means of defence against foreign nations now serves as the City Hall. The new Capitol is a structure of white marble filled with statues and portraits of famous persons.

Charter Oak Park, where the famous tree stood, is worth a visit. Here tradition has it the colony's charter was hidden when Sir Edmund Andros, appointed Governor-General of New England, came to Hartford in 1687 to receive the document and the colonists spirited it out of his reach. If you are not particular about authenticity you can buy any amount of souvenirs supposed to be made from the Charter Oak.

A day spent in Hartford will be full of interest, and the night boat can be taken back to New York.

BY THE SAUGERTIES LINE.

Catskills Resorts Reached After a Night Trip Up the Hudson.

If the Catskills are your destination for the summer vacation why not start for them with a night trip on the Hudson which will land you at Saugerties, where the finest road in the Catskills begins. Boats of the Saugerties Evening Line leave from the foot of Christopher street and the next morning bring up at that quaint old village on the west bank of the Hudson. Not a few persons prefer to go no further and spend their outing here, enjoying the fine walks and drives and boating or fishing.

Or you may take the road to Bearsville or any of the mountain resorts. On the way at every turn of the road the murmuring of running water strikes the ear or the splashing of a waterfall, while above rises the majesty of the mountains each with memories of history or romance.

Those who prefer the higher altitudes will select such resorts as the Hotel Kaaterskill, the old Catskill Mountain House, the Laurel House or the Antlers. Some may find their summer best spent in a quiet little village that clings to the side of a mountain. Not a few will make Saugerties their headquarters and drive to points of interest. Wherever the visitor goes he is sure of finding the bracing air of the mountains.

THE HUDSON BY DAYLIGHT.

Interest and Beauty Combined in a Trip on a Day Line Boat.

No short water journey combines more interest and beauty than a day trip on the Hudson River. There is hardly a mile along the river from here to Albany that is not linked to the past by history and interesting in its present development, while the region is one of great natural beauty. Man has little marred the scenic beauties of the Hudson since Henry Hudson ascended it in 1609.

Taking one of the well equipped steamboats of the Hudson River Day Line one sails away from the noise of the city, past the docks where the big ocean liners are moored and past splendid yachts anchored in the centre of the stream watching the pleasure of their owners. Riverside Park and the imposing dome of Grant's Tomb are on the right. Opposite are the Palisades of the Hudson. Past Washington Point and the rocks under Fort Lee is Yonkers, where in 1777 occurred the naval engagement between

SARATOGA SPRINGS

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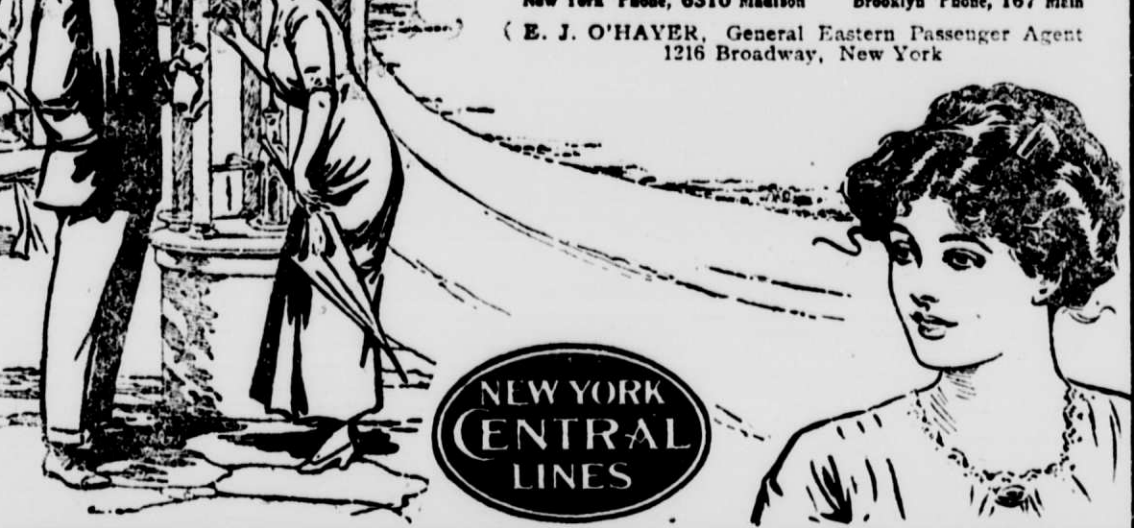
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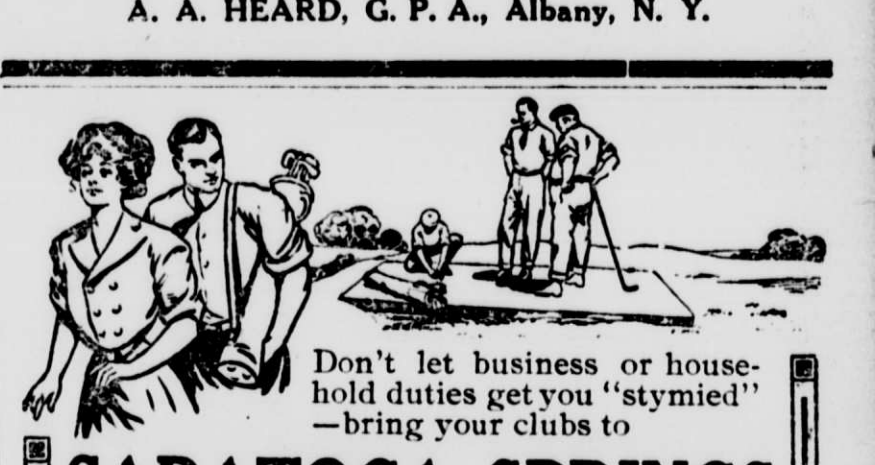
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